

Amendment and Response
Serial No. 09/920,439

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A sole for an article of footwear, the sole comprising:
a first sole layer having a ground engaging surface; and
a second layer having a ground engaging surface, the second layer comprising a discrete continuous mesh having a first side and a second side, the first side layer partially embedded in the sole first layer and partially the second side continuously exposed along the ground engaging surface of the first layer.
2. (Currently amended) The sole of claim 1, wherein the second mesh layer comprises a contoured surface.
3. (Currently amended) The sole of claim 1, wherein the second mesh layer comprises a knit structure formed from thread.
4. (Original) The sole of claim 3, wherein the thread comprises a plurality of spun fibers.
5. (Original) The sole of claim 1, wherein the mesh comprises a material selected from the group consisting of metals, polyesters, polyamides, aramids, and combinations thereof.
6. (Currently amended) The sole of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the second mesh layer extends beyond a bottom surface of the sole first layer.
7. (Currently amended) The sole of claim 1, wherein the second mesh layer is substantially coterminous with a bottom surface of the sole first layer.
8. (Currently amended) The sole of claim 1, wherein the sole first layer comprises a profile groove defined by a bottom surface of the sole first layer.
9. (Currently amended) The sole of claim 1, wherein the sole first layer comprises a damping material.

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10. (Original) The sole of claim 9, wherein the damping material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of ethylene vinyl acetate, polyurethane, rubber, and combinations thereof.
11. (Currently amended) An article of footwear comprising:
an upper;
a sole first layer attached to the upper, the sole first layer having a ground engaging surface; and
a second layer having a ground engaging surface, the second layer comprising a discrete continuous mesh having a first side and a second side, the first side layer partially embedded in the sole first layer and partially the second side continuously exposed along the ground engaging surface of the first layer.
12. (Currently amended) The article of claim 11, wherein the second mesh layer comprises a contoured surface.
13. (Currently amended) The article of claim 11, wherein the second mesh layer comprises a knit structure formed from thread.
14. (Original) The article of claim 13, wherein the thread comprises a plurality of spun fibers.
15. (Original) The article of claim 11, wherein the mesh comprises a material selected from the group consisting of metals, polyesters, polyamides, aramids, and combinations thereof.
16. (Currently amended) The article of claim 11, wherein at least a portion of the second mesh layer extends beyond a bottom surface of the sole first layer.
17. (Currently amended) The article of claim 11, wherein the second mesh layer is substantially coterminous with a bottom surface of the sole first layer.
18. (Currently amended) The article of claim 11, wherein the sole first layer comprises a profile groove defined by a bottom surface of the sole first layer.
19. (Currently amended) The article of claim 11, wherein the sole first layer comprises a damping material.

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20. (Original) The article of claim 19, wherein the damping material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of ethylene vinyl acetate, polyurethane, rubber, and combinations thereof.

21.-36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently amended) The sole of claim 1, wherein the second mesh layer extends along substantially an entire length of a bottom surface of the sole first layer.

38. (Currently amended) The article of claim 11, wherein the second mesh layer extends along substantially an entire length of a bottom surface of the sole first layer.

39. (Currently amended) The sole of claim 1, wherein the second mesh layer extends along a front surface of the sole first layer.

40. (Currently amended) The sole of claim 1, wherein the second mesh layer extends along a side surface of the sole first layer.

41. (Currently amended) The article of claim 11, wherein the second mesh layer extends along a front surface of the sole first layer.

42. (Currently amended) The article of claim 11, wherein the second mesh layer extends along a side surface of the sole first layer.

43. (New) The sole of claim 1, wherein the continuous mesh is substantially planar.

44. (New) The article of claim 11, wherein the continuous mesh is substantially planar.